

Message Text

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21

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 SWF-02 AID-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00

COME-00 EB-11 FRB-02 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 CIEP-02

SP-03 STR-08 TRSE-00 LAB-06 SIL-01 SAM-01 OMB-01

DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 L-03 NSC-07 PA-04 PRS-01 SS-20

AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 NEA-14 SAJ-01 AGR-20 FEA-02 INT-08

SCI-06 DRC-01 /244 W

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R 071923Z JUN 74

FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7024

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON 9903

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION OECD PARIS

USIA WASHDC

UNCLAS EC BRUSSELS 3923

USAC

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, EEC, US

SUBJECT: US-EC CONSULTATIONS; EBERLEE-SOAMES PRESS CONFERENCE

DEPARTMENT PLEASE PASS WHITE HOUSE (STR)

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1. SUMMARY: FOLLOWING US/EC CONSULTATIONS SIR

CHRISTOPHER SOAMES AND AMBASSADOR EBERLE GAVE
HALF HOUR JOINT PRESS CONFERENCE AT NOON 7 JUNE
IN THE BERLAYMONT (EC COMMISSION HEADQUARTERS
BUILDING) FOR APPROXIMATELY 130 EUROPEAN AND
AMERICAN CORRESPONDENTS. END SUMMARY

2. SOAMES BEGAN SESSION SAYING 24:6 SETTLEMENT HAD
REMOVED POTENTIAL SOURCE OF DIFFICULTY FROM INTERNATIONAL
TRADING SCENE, AND THAT SETTLEMENT HAD POLITICAL AS WELL
AS ECONOMIC IMPORTANCE. HE SAID EC SIDE HAD MADE
CLEAR ITS HOPES FOR PROMPT ENACTMENT OF THE TRA; MTN IS
NOW EVEN MORE IMPORTANT THAN AT TIME OF TOKYO DECLARATION.
HE LISTED AS TOPICS DISCUSSED IN US-EC CONSULTATIONS:
US AND EC RELATIONS WITH LDCS; EC RELATIONS WITH
ASSOCIATES AND ASSOCIABLES; EC INTENTION TO EXPAND
ITS GENERALIZED PREFERENCE SCHEME NEXT YEAR; THE
IMPORTANCE THE COMMISSION ATTACHES TO THE PROPOSED
UN EMERGENCY FUND; THE SITUATION IN AGRICULTURAL
MARKETS; PREPARATIONS FOR WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE;
ENERGY; AND US/EC CONTACTS REGARDING ENVIRONMENTAL
RESEARCH. HE SAID THAT WHILE THERE ARE CERTAIN ASPECTS OF
POLICY WHERE THE DIALOGUE BETWEEN US AND EC "STILL LEAVES A GREAT
DEAL TO BE DESIRED, " IN
THOSE AREAS TOUCHING ON COMPETENCE OF THE COMMUNITIES,
THERE IS A VERY GOOD DIALOGUE.

3. FOLLOWING BRIEF INTRODUCTORY REMARKS BY AMBASSADOR
EBERLE, QUESTION PERIOD BEGAN,. HIGHLIGHTS FOLLOW:

A. LE MONDE ASKED ABOUT POSSIBILITY JOICT US/EC
INITIATIVE TO OPEC CONCERNING OIL PRICES.
DPA INQUIRED ABOUT EC/ARAB CONFERENCE. SOAMES
SAID JOINT US-EC DEMARCHE WAS NOT BROACHED, BUT
DELEGATIONS DID DISCUSS " IN SOME DEPTH" AREAS
WITHIN COMMISSION'S RESPONSIBILITIES WHERE
CONSULTATION ON ENERGY HAS BEEN TAKING PLACE
BETWEEN US AND EC. EBERLE STATED US VIEW THAT
LOWER OIL PRICES WOULD HELP ALLEVIATE BALANCE
OF PAYMENTS PRESSURE ON CONSUMERS.

B. AP ASKED ABOUT STATUS OF US-EC DECLARATION.
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EBERLE SAID SUBJECT WAS NOT DISCUSSED AND
REFERRED TO SECRETARY'S JUNE 6 STATEMENT
REGARDING NATO DECLARATION AND "GERMAN SUGGESTIONS
THAT IT IS PROBABLY BETTER TO CONTINUE SPECIFIC
DISCUSSIONS OF PROBLEMS RATHER THAN MOVE FORWARD
AT THIS TIME WITH BROADER (US-EC) DECLARATION".

C. GUARDIAN REPORTER ASKED IF MANNER OF DEALING WITH

CERALS IN 24:6 NEGOTIATIONS MEANS US FEELS IT HASN'T RECEIVED ADEQUATE COMPENSATION. EBERLE SAID IT MEANS " US LOOKS FORWARD TO MORE TRADE ON AGRICULTURAL SIDE" WHICH REQUIRES ADDITIONAL DISCUSSIONS WHICH WILL "OVERLAP" THE MTN. SOLUTION OF CERALS ISSUE NOW WAS " PROBABLY IMPOSSIBLE", SO US LOOKS FOR SOLUTION IN MTN.

D. FINANCIALE DAGBLAD (AMSTERDAM) ASKED IF OTHER COUNTRIES (CANADA, POLAND) WITH 24:6 CLAIMS WOULD ACCEPT EC OFFER TO US. SOAMES SAID EC OFFER WAS GLOBAL ONE AND "VERY LARGELY, IT'S ACCEPTABLE" TO OTHERS.

E. TO AFP QUERY REGARDING US ATTITUDE TOWARD EC PLANS TO ENCOURAGE SOYBEAN PRODUCTION, EBERLE STATED US HAS NO OBJECTION TO INCREASING AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION IN A TIME OF TREMENDOUS DEMAND WHEN DONE " ON AN ECONOMIC BASIS". US DOES NOT THINK EC SOYBEAN PLAN MEETS THAT CRITERION. AT THIS TIME.

F. TO AFP QUESTION ON REVERSE PREFERENCES, EBERLE SAID US WILL CONTINUE TO EXPRESS CONCERNS, WHICH HOPEFULLY WILL BE MET AS EC-ACP NEGOTIATIONS PROCEED.

G. ON COMMODITY AGREEMENTS (FINANCIELE DAGBLED), EBERLE SAID US WOULD HAVE GREAT RESERVATIONS ABOUT AGREEMENTS WHICH RESTRICT TRADE.

H. WASHINGTON POST ASKED EBERLE FOR LIST OF US UNCLASSIFIED

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GRIEVANCES AGAINST EC. AFTER CORRECTING PREMISE OF QUESTION, EBERLE MENTIONED PACKAGING, STANDARDS AND BOTTLE SIZES AS SPECIFIC "PROBLEMS" RATHER THAN GRIEVANCES TO BE RESOLVED.

I. NEW YORK TIMES ASKED ABOUT CANADA AND MEXICO/EC TRADE AGREEMENTS AND WHETHER US WOULD LIKE OWN TRADE AGREEMENT WITH EC. EBERLE REPLIED THAT PROPOSED CANADIAN AND MEXICAN AGREEMENTS ARE NON- PREFERENTIAL AND WOULD ENCOURAGE TRADE AND ARE "DESIRABLE BECAUSE THEY MEET THE GENERAL CONTEXT TO MULTILATERALISM". A US/EC TRADE AGREEMENT IS NOT NECESSARY.

J. SAME CORRESPONDENT ASKED IF COUNTERVAILING

DUTIES COULD BECOME A MAJOR US/EC ISSUE.
EBERLE SAID THAT IT IS A CONCERN IN OUR
RELATIONS WITH THE EC AND WITH MANY OTHER
COUNTRIES. HE EXPLAINED HISTORY OF THE
LAW AND BROUGHT UP NEED TO DEFINE
MULTILATERALLY THE ACCEPTABLE RANGE OF
SUBSIDIES. (HE DID NOT MENTION PRODUCTS
INVOLVED IN ANY POSSIBLE COUNTERVAILING ACTION.)
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: LESS DEVELOPED COUNTRIES, FOREIGN RELATIONS, ARTICLE XXIV 6, PREFERENTIAL TARIFFS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 07 JUN 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974ECBRU03923
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740147-0104
From: EC BRUSSELS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740666/aaaacepk.tel
Line Count: 178
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: martinjw
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26 AUG 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <26 AUG 2002 by PhilliRO>; APPROVED <08 JAN 2003 by martinjw>; APPROVED <08 JAN 2003 by martinjw>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: US-EC CONSULTATIONS; EBERLEE-SOAMES PRESS CONFERENCE DEPARTMENT PLEASE PASS WHITE HOUSE (STR)
TAGS: ETRD, US, EEC, WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE, (EBERLE), (SOAMES, CHRISTOPHER)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005